



Brainstorming workshop

„Sanctions and their Effectiveness: The Case of the Apartheid-Regime in South Africa“

Thursday, 5th May 2011

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
Hiroshimastr. 17
Boardroom 121/122
10785 Berlin

Background:

In the wake of the current popular unrests in parts of the Maghreb and of the Maschrek political forces in opposition to their regimes call upon the international community to sanction their governments in order to facilitate a system change. International sanctions as coercive measures adopted by countries or the UN against another state to evoke a change in its behaviour became prominent from the 1990ies on. Up to date, however, they only show a mixed track record.

Whereas sanctions against Iraq, Myanmar or Zimbabwe had not or have not yet led to the desired ends, the previous sanctions against South Africa are often quoted as a success to overcome the then ruling Apartheid-Regime and to establish a democratic, non-racial state. Before this background it is necessary to identify and analyze the factors which made the international sanctions against South Africa successful to draw lessons for potential sanctions against other regimes.

The envisaged workshop intends to identify these factors through discussion inputs from contemporary witnesses from the German Anti-Apartheid Movement as well as from the African National Congress ANC who headed the exiled South African opposition in those years. The results of the workshop shall be utilized for a later broader public debate about an effective international solidarity with oppressed peoples and societies. Participants of the workshop shall as well recommend instruments for broadening the debate such as exhibitions, conferences, public dialogues etc.

The workshop will be conducted in English. An interpretation will be provided.

Contact:

Ms Svende Eickhoff, Africa Department, FES Berlin
Phone: 030 26935-7442, Email: svende.eickhoff@fes.de

Programme:

10.00 – 11.00	<p>Welcome by Ms. Renate Tenbusch, Head of South Africa Desk, Africa Department, FES Berlin</p> <p>General Introduction of Participants and their links to the ANC and the anti-apartheid movement</p> <p>Presentation by Mr. Willie Kgositsile, Advisor to the Minister of Arts and Culture, South Africa</p> <p>Chair: Mr. Axel Schmidt, FES South Africa</p>
11.00 – 12.00	<p>1st Brainstorming Session: Which international and domestic factors contributed to the end of the South African Apartheid-Regime?</p> <p>Chair: Mr. Axel Schmidt, FES South Africa</p>
12.00 – 13.00	Lunch
13.00 – 15.00	<p>2nd Brainstorming Session: Which lessons can be drawn for an effective international solidarity?</p> <p>Chair: Ms. Renate Tenbusch, Africa Department, FES Berlin</p>
15.00 – 15.15	Coffee break
15.15 – 16.45	<p>3rd Brainstorming Session: Which instruments can be useful to stimulate a public debate on sanctions and international solidarity?</p> <p>Chair: Ms. Renate Tenbusch, Africa Department, FES Berlin</p>
16.15 – 17.15	<p>Agreements and tentative plans</p> <p>Chair: Ms. Renate Tenbusch, Africa Department, FES Berlin</p>